

George Lobdell House (Minquedale Home for the Aged)  
U.S. Route 13  
Minquedale  
New Castle County  
Delaware

HABS No. DE-222

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DEL,  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	Delaware	COUNTY	New Castle (New Castle Hundred)	TOWN OR VICINITY	Minquedale
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) George Lobdell House					HABS NO. DE-222
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Minquedale Home for the Aged					
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) U.S. Route 13, Wilmington vicinity (Latitude 39° 42' 23"; Longitude 75° 34' 13")					
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Attributed date 1864 (Nat. Reg.) Site occupied by 1860 (Lake & Beers, Atlas)			ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)		
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Summer estate of George C. Lobdell - Wilmington, Delaware, manufacturer and inventor of railway car parts. Remodeled ca. 1891 as a retirement home for Lobdell's employees.					
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Italianate					
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Braced frame with load bearing brick partition wall running parallel to the ridge. Frame nogged with rubble brick and covered with sawn lath and plaster on the exterior. Common rafter roof with braced (cont.)					
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) First floor extensively altered in form. Original wall sections suggest a central stair passage piercing half the depth of the building producing a double pile plan three (cont.)					
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Cupola: square, shallow hipped roof; Italianate detailing with 2 over 2 light sash (replaced), factory scroll sawn brackets and machine turned finial; interior finished with planed board walling. Dormer windows: Three on each roof elevation; 2 over 2 light sash (replaced); projecting eaves visually supported on scroll sawn (cont.)					
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) See second floor plan. Interior heavily altered on first floor. Second floor features include built in linen presses with poplar drawers with agate glazed ceramic knobs; rebuilt second floor landing with duplicating lathe produced turned balusters.					
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Late 19th-century: dwelling converted into home for the aged. Second floor plan subdivided into living cubicles; one-story brick common bond (with segmental arch openings) kitchen and dining area added to rear of structure. Mid 20th-century: First floor gutted and converted into recreation hall; aluminum siding added.					
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Deteriorated, vacant, slated for sale. Demolition probable with planned redevelopment of five acre lot for commercial use.					
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Property associated with Lobdell family. Lobdell papers including full business records for Lobdell Car Wheel Works survive in the collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 13th and Locust Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.					
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register of Historic Places nomination 6/4/1973 Lobdell Family and Business Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Atlas of Philadelphia and Vicinity, Lake and Beers, (1860)					
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Bernard L. Herman David L. Ames Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering, University of Delaware					DATE 7/9/1984

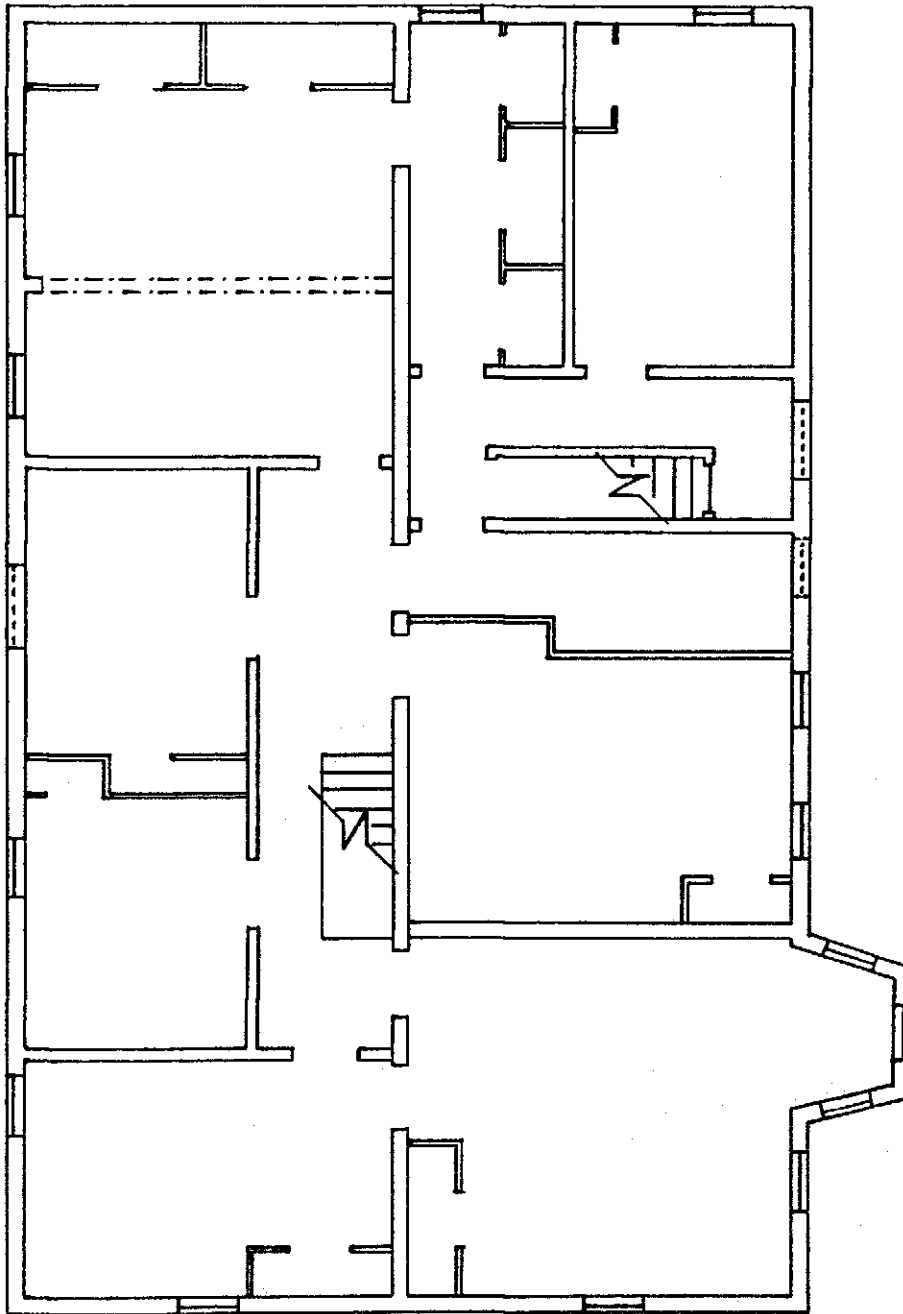
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM, CONTINUATION.

Material of Construction: frame cupola. Roof covered with patterned slate shingle hung from board and lath sub-roof. Floor joists for attic level under cupola of 1" by 10" board stiffened with bracing. Second floor, second period partitions (dating from building conversion ca. 1891) of vertical board horizontally lathed and plastered. All wood building materials mechanically sawn (sash and circular) and fastened with fully developed cut nails.

Shape and Dimensions of Structure: rooms across laid out behind a symmetrically balanced five-bay elevation. Original dimensions 54' by 33'; mid 19th-century gable wing south elevation 17'4" by 23'; late 19th-century rear west elevation brick dining hall wing 53'6" by 30'. See sketch plan.

Exterior Features of Note: brackets, upper architrave of each window broken with a slightly projecting cartouche. Projecting two-story bow window on the west elevation with each face pierced by single light sash windows (replaced), architraves of milled board with bossed upper corners, opening size diminishes from first to second story, floor division highlighted by drip line, shallow hipped roof with projecting cornice carried on flattened profile machine scroll-sawn brackets.

Shape and Dimensions of Building: Note attached second floor plan of the dwelling reflecting changes made during conversion to Minquedale Home for the Aged. Scale in feet.



Minquedale Home for the Aged, New Castle Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware.  
Second floor plan (scale in feet) reflecting changes made in 1891.